

## LATIN AND THE LOCATIVE CASE FORMATION AND USAGE

**The Locative Case.** The locative case is a journey of space, place, and time. *I travel the Empire's seas and roads to the farthest corners. I always find my way to the city. ad urbem semper profectus sum*

**Accusative and space.** The accusative is used to express the sense of space or distance, how far...? Example :

<b>ara est septem pedes alta</b>	The altar is seven feet high
<b>circiter milia passuum decem ab Romanis Vercingetorix consedit</b>	Vercingetorix established himself about ten miles from the Romans

Nouns indicating a period of time are in the accusative to express how long an event or circumstance lasts. The ablative expresses time when, or the period of time within which an event occurs. Example :

<b>tertio die matrem videbimus</b>	We will see our mother <u>on the third day</u>
<b>tribus diebus matrem videbimus</b>	We will see our mother <u>within three days</u>
<b>tres dies matrem videbimus</b>	We will see our mother <u>for three days</u>

The preposition with accusative **ante** before, in front of and the preposition with accusative **post** behind, back require review. Example :

**ante tres annos** and **tribus ante annis** both mean **three years earlier**  
**post tres annos** and **tribus post annis** both mean **three years later**

**Nota bene** : In the **accusative**, **ante** and **post** are **prepositions** with the sense of time **before** / **after** three years. In the **ablative**, **ante** and **post** are **adverbs** with the sense of time **by how long before** / **afterward by** three years

**Nota bene** : The adverb **abhinc** has the meaning **ago**. **abhinc** is usually in the **accusative** with a noun expressing a **period of time** (it may be encountered in the ablative). Example :

**abhinc annos / annis quinque** means **five years ago**

### Adverbs of place.

<b>huc</b> hither, here to this place	<b>hic</b> here, in this place	<b>hinc</b> hence, from this place
<b>eo</b> <b>illuc</b> thither, there, to that place	<b>ibi</b> <b>illic</b> there, in that place	<b>inde</b> <b>illinc</b> thence, from that place
<b>quo ?</b> whither ? where ? to what place ?	<b>ubi ?</b> where ? in what place ?	<b>unde ?</b> whence ? from what place ?

**Place to which.** Indicates the place to which there is movement. The accusative case with **in** or **ad**. Example :

<b>ad urbem</b>	to the city	<b>in Graeciam</b>	to Greece
<b>ad Italiam</b>	to Italy	<b>ad forum</b>	to the forum
<b>sese in fugam dant</b>	They take to flight	<b>in omnes partes fugiunt</b>	They flee in all directions
<b>se in proximas silvas abdunt</b>	They hide in the nearest wood	<b>in Santones perveniunt</b>	They arrive at the territories of the Santones

**Place from which.** Indicates the place from which there is movement. The ablative case with **a / ab** or **e / ex**. Example :

<b>ex oppido</b>	from / out of the town	<b>ab Africa</b>	from Africa
<b>e Britannia</b>	from / out of Britain	<b>a litore</b>	from the seashore

**Place where.** Indicates the place where something happens. The ablative case with **in**. Example :

<b>in Graecia</b>	<b>In Greece</b>	<b>in Gallia</b>	<b>in Gaul</b>
<b>in templo</b>	<b>in the temple</b>	<b>in viis</b>	<b>in the streets</b>

**Place-name to which there is movement.** Indicates the place in the accusative case without **ad** or **in**. Example :

<b>Romam</b>	<b>to Rome</b>	<b>domum</b>	<b>home, homeward</b>
<b>Pompeios</b>	<b>to Pompeii</b>	<b>rus</b>	<b>to the country</b>

**Place-name from which there is movement.** Indicates the place in the ablative case without **e / ex** or **a / ab**. Example :

<b>Roma</b>	<b>from Rome</b>	<b>domo</b>	<b>from home</b>
<b>Athenis</b>	<b>from Athens</b>	<b>rure</b>	<b>the country</b>

**Place-name where something happens.** Indicates the place in the locative where something happens. Example :

<b>Romae</b>	<b>in / at Rome</b>	<b>domi</b>	<b>at home</b>
<b>Eboraci</b>	<b>in / at York</b>	<b>ruri</b>	<b>in the country</b>
<b>Pompeiis</b>	<b>in / at Pompeii</b>	<b>humi</b>	<b>on the ground</b>

**When the preposition “in” is not required.** The verb **loco, locare, locavi, locatum** (1, transitive). **to place, put** nouns such as **locus, loci**. 2m. **a place, spot** (a specific location) [plural with neuter gender] **region** or **general geographical area**, and **pars, partis**. 3f i-stem. **a part, piece, share** and the phrase **terra marique on land sea** and other orders modified by **totus** or other adjectives, may be used without **in**. Example :

<b>loco aequo</b>	<b>on level ground</b>
<b>locis apertis</b>	<b>on open ground</b>
<b>totis castris</b>	<b>throughout the camp</b>
<b>tota acie pronuntiari iusserunt</b>	<b>They ordered the command to be given along the whole [entire] line</b>

**The prepositions “a / ab” and “ad.”** Prepositions **a / ab** and **ad** with the names of cities to denote : **from / to / in the vicinity of**. Example :

<b>castra ab Roma movit</b>	<b>He moved his camp from the vicinity of Rome</b>
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The preposition **a / ab** with cities after the adverb **longe far** and verbs of distance. Example :

<b>longe a Corintho absunt</b>	<b>They are far distant from Corinth</b>
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**Nota bene** : **longe**, positive; **longius**, comparative; **longissime**, superlative. adverb. [long : of space or distance] **long, a long way off, far, far off, at a distance**. The adverb **longe** also has the sense of **time** : **long, for a long period of time**

**The city of Rome.** Rome has a special significance. In phrases : **to the city of Rome, in the city of Rome**, and **from the city of Rome** the name is in **apposition** (two words grammatically parallel with the same referent). In the second citation **munitia** and **urbe** are both in the ablative, feminine, singular case and therefore in apposition. Example :

<b>ad urbem Romam</b>	<b>in urbe Roma</b>	<b>ab urbe Roma</b>
<b>Albae constiterunt, in urbe munita</b>	<b>They halted at Alba, in [a] fortified town</b>	

**Sense of direction and movement, pairing ablative and the accusative.** Pairing an **ablative**, going away with an **accusative**, going to indicate both direction and movement. The cited sentence below illustrates case endings at their best : **Roma** is in the **ablative**. **Athenas** is in the **accusative**. Example :

<b>Caesare interfecto, Brutus Roma Athenas fugit</b>	<b>With Caesar murdered, Brutus fled from Rome to Athens</b>
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**Pairing of place and person.** Latin pairs the person and the place. The two sentences below exhibit both Roman linguistic and cultural orientation. Example :

<b>Antonius Roma a senatu ad Caesarem in Galliam venit</b>	<b>Antony came from the senate in Rome to Caesar in Gaul</b>
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**signa ab Heio e sacrario Verres abstulit**

**Verres carried off the statutes from the chapel of Heius**

**Nota bene** : Latin pairs person and place. In the first sentence above, Antony came from the senate and from Rome, he went to Gaul to see Caesar. The second sentence carefully notes that Verres not only took the statutes from the chapel, he also stole them from Heius, the owner

**Emphasis of action “from.”** Latin emphasizes the quarter **from which** an act proceeds rather than the quarter **in which** it happens. Example :

**ex omnibus partibus, a fronte, a latere, a tergo, trucidantur Hispani**

**On all sides, in front, on the flank, in the rear, the Spaniards were slaughtered**

**a dextra parte**

**on the right**

**a sinistro cornu**

**on the left wing**

**una ex parte**

**on one side**

**a septentrionibus**

**on the north**

**Verbs of placing.** Verbs of placing : **pono, ponere, posui, positum** (3, transitive). **To put, place, set and colloco, collocare, collocavi, collocatum** (1, transitive). **To put** (in a particular place together), **arrange, assemble, take**; the ablative takes the preposition **in**. Note pairing of preposition, noun and verb. Example :

**nostra salus te in uno posita est**

**Our safety depends on you alone**

**exercitum in hibernis collocavit**

**He stationed the army in winter quarters**

**Expressions of time.** There are several set expressions of time : **time how long** is expressed by the **accusative**; **time when** by the **ablative**; **time within** either by the **ablative** or by **intra** with the **accusative**. Example :

**Time how long**

**multas horas morabatur**

**He stayed for many hours**

**multos annos vixit**

**He lived [for] many years**

**paucis horas domi manebat**

**He will stay at home [for] a few hours**

**mansimus Athenis quattuor annos**

**We remained in Athens for four years**

**quinque dies navigabant**

**They were sailing for five days**

**Time when**

**prima luce profectus est**

**He set out at dawn**

**sexta hora profecti sunt**

**They set off at the sixth hour**

**quarto anno belli rex mortuus est**

**In the fourth year of the war, the king died**

**Time within**

**Tribus diebus [intra tres dies] redibit**

**He will return within three days**

**quinto mensibus reveni**

**I came back within five months**

**Passage of time “many” and “from” and “to.”** To express **many years after** **multis post annis** or **post multos annos**. In the first expression **post** is an adverb, **annis** is ablative of measure of difference. In the second, **post** is a preposition governing the accusative. An alternate expressive approach : **multis ante annis** or **ante multos annos** **many years before**

**From one point of time to another** is expressed by **ab...ad**. Example :

**ab hora septima ad vesperum**

**from the seventh hour until evening**

**a meridie ad solis occasum**

**from noon until sunset**

**ad multam noctem**

**until late at night**

**Expressing a person’s age.** The participle **natus, nata, natum**. participle. 1 / 2 dec. **Born, arisen, made** is paired with **cardinal numbers** and the noun **annus, anni**. 2m. **Year** is in the accusative plural. Example :

**quinque et vigineti annos natus, imperator factus est**

**At the age of 25 [having been born for 25 years], he became commander**

VOCABULARY AND EXPRESSIONS

**Formation of the locative case.** The locative case indicates a named place. English has a vague sense of the locative, prepositions such as **in**, **on**, **at**, and **by** indicate a physical place. The Latin locative is associated with the linguistic group of cases that include the **lative** (to indicate motion to a location) and the **separative** (to indicate motion away from a location). Classical Latin almost exclusively refers locative case endings to the names of cities and islands. In addition, there is a short list of well-known nouns that possess a locative ending for a particular circumstance. The rules for forming the locative case. Example :

- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> declension nouns : the form is identical to the genitive singular of the noun's normal declension
- 3<sup>rd</sup> declension nouns : the form is identical to the ablative singular
- Plural nouns : the form, for all declensions, is the same as the ablative plural

**Plural place-names.** **Pompeii** is a plural place-name. Does a plural place-name indicate multiples of the same city? No, only one city of that name existed during antiquity. The best supposition is that plural place-names may not have originally referred to the name of the city but to the inhabitants. Therefore, **Athenae** refers **to the place where the Athenians live** and, over time came to refer **to the place itself**. Subject-verb concordance, does a plural place-name require a plural verb? The following example is cited from Ciceronian correspondence : **valde me Athenae delectarunt**, **Athens pleased me greatly** Cicero. **Letters to Atticus**. V.10

	Roma, Romae 1f sg	Troia, Troiae 1f sg	Athenae, Athenarum 1f pl	Syracusae, Syracusarum 1f pl	Corinthus, Corinthi 2m sg	Pompeii, Pompeiorum 2m pl	Londinium, Londinii 2n sg	Karthago, (1) Karthaginis 3f sg
N	Roma	Troia	Athenae	Syracusae	Corinthus	Pompeii	Londinium	Karthago
G	Romae	Troiae	Athenarum	Syracusarum	Corinthi	Pompeiorum	Londinii	Karthaginis
D	Romae	Troiae	Athenis	Syracusi	Corintho	Pompeiiis	Londinio	Karthagini
Ac	Romam	Troiam	Athenas	Syracusas	Corinthum	Pompeios	Londinium	Karthaginem
Ab	Roma	Troia	Athenis	Syracusi	Corintho	Pompeiiis	Londinio	Karthagine, -i
V	Roma	Troia	Athenae	Syracusae	Corinthe	Pompeii	Londinium	Karthago
L	Romae	Troiae	Athenis	Syracusi	Corinthi	Pompeiiis	Londinii	Karthagine, -i
	Veii, Veiorum Etruscan city 2m pl	domus, (2)(3)(4)(5) domus house, home, household 4f w 2 forms irregular			humus, (2) humi ground, earth, soil 2f irregular		rus, (2) ruris the country, countryside 3n non i-stem	
N	Veii	domus	domus	humus	humi	rus	rua	
G	Veiorum	domus / domi	domuum / domorum	humi	humorum	ruris	rurum	
D	Veiiis	domui / domo	domibus	humo	humis	ruri	ruribus	
Ac	Veios	domum	domus / domos	humum	humos	rus	rua	
Ab	Veiiis	domu / domo	domibus	humo	humis	rure	ruribus	
V	Veii	domus	domus	hume	humi	rus	rua	
L	Veiiis	domi	domibus	humi	-	ruri / rure	ruribus	

- Nota bene :**
1. **Karthago** may also be spelt **Carthago**
  2. **domus, humus, rus** : decline irregularly, observe case endings. Additional nouns see notes : 6 and 7
  3. **domus** is a 4<sup>th</sup> declension noun. When the noun indicates **motion to or from a location**, then the noun uses 2<sup>nd</sup> declension endings. The locative for **domus** is not **domus**, the genitive case, but **domi**, which would be the genitive case if domus were 2<sup>nd</sup> declension. Similarly, to show motion from home, Latin uses **domo**, not **domu**
  4. **domus** and prepositions. Latin uses the names of cities and small islands either in the accusative or the ablative without the preposition. The same construction exists for **domus, -us**. 2m. The phrase **ad domum eo** does *not* exist, but **domum eo**
  5. The following phrases are useful. Example : **domi**, locative, **at home**; **domi meae**, locative, **at my home**; **domi eius**, locative, **at his home**; **domum**, accusative, **to home** or **home** (a destination); **domo**, ablative, **from home**
  6. **militia, militiae**. 1f. noun. **The military, army, soldiery**. Figurative : **Military spirit, courage, bravery**. Locative : **militiae**. **In the field, away from home, abroad**
  7. **focus, foci**. 2m. noun. **Fireplace, hearth**. Figurative : **House, family**. Locative : **foci** : **Home, household, family**

